



21st Year, 1st Issue
March 2003

632 Versailles Road
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 573-2604 V/TTY
(800) 372-2907 V/TTY
(502) 573-3594 FAX
www.kcdhh.org

“
*We urge
everyone
who is
interested
in this goal
to do what
you can to
assist in its
achievement.*
”

In This Issue...

Bobbie Beth's Tidbits	1
KSD Assessment	2
Foster Parents	3
Board Vacancies	3
TTY Crisis Line	4

Communicator

Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing



Bobbie Beth's Tidbits...

Many of you have probably heard of the American Institutes of Research (AIR) Report that was commissioned by the Kentucky Department of Education to look at the current status of education for deaf and hard of hearing children in Kentucky and make recommendations for improvement. This report looked at the Kentucky School for the Deaf (KSD) and the Kentucky School for the Blind (KSB) and also local school districts, regional programs, etc. The ultimate goal for both the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) and the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) is to have deaf and hard of hearing students performing at that the same level as hearing students, which is “Proficient” on the CATS achievement test, by the year 2014. The KBE directed the Department to work with stakeholders (deaf/hard of hearing and blind/visually impaired consumers, parents, service providers, etc.) to develop plans for defining and implementing components of a framework approved by the KBE and to continue to improve academic performance at KSB and KSD. Attached is a copy of the KSD Assessment for Spring 2002, which shows academic achievement comparisons between deaf and hearing students in Kentucky. Read it carefully.

If you recall, in our last newsletter was a green insert labeled “Call for Stakeholders.” The stakeholder groups that have been formed are: (1) Early Identification, (2) Supporting Parents and Families, (3) Closing the Achievement Gaps, (4) Expanding Outreach Services, (5) Students with Complex Impairments, (6) Number of Service Providers, (7) Comprehensive High Schools, and (8) Intervention and Services Closer to Home (composed of 11 regional groups). More than 500 interested people responded. The Department tried to honor all the specific requests but had to ensure a balance of interests and diversity (racial and geographic) on each group. Those who were not selected to serve on the stakeholder groups will be given another

opportunity for input after the stakeholders have developed implementation recommendations. These groups will be called focus groups and will respond to the stakeholders’ recommendations.

Mid-South Regional Resource Center is providing the facilitators for all of these groups. They are experienced facilitators and also happen to be the group that was used to facilitate the Quality and Standards Process in 1996-98, which resulted in a consensus for the need for licensure for interpreters.

The Department of Education made a decision not to replace the Superintendent of the Kentucky School for the Deaf, in part for budgetary reasons. The Department also felt the school had enough administrators who could adequately do tasks required of a superintendent, and that, therefore, a superintendent was not necessary. This has caused many people in the deaf community to be concerned. As a result a resolution has been filed by Senator Tom Buford, called the Senate Joint Resolution 46, (see <http://www.lrc.state.ky.us/record/03rs/SJ46/bill.doc>) which urges the Department of Education to proceed with forming a search committee and ultimately appointing a superintendent at the Kentucky School for the Deaf, as well as one at the Kentucky School for the Blind. Regardless of its outcome, we will continue working closely with the Department and the deaf community pursuing our common goals for the sake of deaf and hard of hearing children in Kentucky. We urge everyone who is interested in this goal to do what you can to assist in its achievement. This is a unique time in the history of Kentucky. Education of deaf and hard of hearing children has moved to the forefront with the Board of Education and the Department of Education. A great deal of time and resources are being devoted to its improvement. The KCDHH is excited about the prospect of significant improvements in the education of deaf and hard of hearing Kentuckians and will continue working closely with the Department of Education and other interested groups to attain this goal.

Bobbie Beth

Commission Members

Cole Zulauf, Chair

Kentucky Association of the Deaf
Representative

Marcie Jeffers

Cabinet for Health Services
Representative

Pat Huddleston

Parent Representative

Loretta Haley

Kentucky Registry of Interpreters
for the Deaf
President Designee

Joe Etienne

Kentucky Speech, Language & Hearing
Association Representative

Tom Ryan

Kentucky Association of the Deaf
Representative

Dr. Patricia Freeman

Member at Large Representative

Jayne McRae

Self Help for the Hard of Hearing
Representative

David Wylie

Kentucky Association of the Deaf
Representative

Kevin Martin

Kentucky Association of the Deaf
President

Dr. Marlene M. Helm

Education, Arts & Humanities Cabinet
Secretary

Merle Williams

Alexander Graham Bell
Representative

Betty Timon

American Association of Retired Persons
Representative

Mona McCubbin

Service Provider Representative

Donn Jackson

Cabinet for Families and Children
Representative

The deadline to submit information and articles for the June 2003 edition of the Communicator is May 2003. All materials provided through KCDHH are available in accessible format upon request.

KSD Assessment

CATS Assessment Results Spring, 2002

Submitted by Nancy Mann,
District Assessment Coordinator

Elementary School Accountability Index Results:

- ✍ KSD Elementary School Accountability Index increased by .3 (37.2 to 37.5).
- ✍ Content areas of growth included Reading, Science, Social Studies, Arts and Humanities, and Practical Living/Vocational Studies.
- ✍ Content areas of decline were Math and Writing.
- ✍ Statewide Elementary 2002 Accountability Index was 72.8 while the KSD Elementary Index was 37.5.

Middle School Accountability Index Results:

- ✍ KSD Middle School Accountability Index increased by .4 (33.5 to 33.9).
- ✍ Content areas of growth included Math, Science, Social Studies, and Arts and Humanities.
- ✍ Content areas of decline included Reading, Practical Living/Vocational Studies, and Writing.
- ✍ Statewide Middle School 2002 Accountability Index was 68.7 while the KSD Middle School Index was 33.9.

High School Accountability Index Results:

- ✍ KSD High School Accountability Index increased by 8.0 (32.8 to 40.8).
- ✍ Content areas of growth included Reading, Math, Science, and Writing.
- ✍ Content Areas of decline included Social Studies, Arts and Humanities, and Practical Living/Vocational Studies.
- ✍ The Statewide High School 2002 Accountability Index was 68.4 while the KSD High School Accountability Index was 40.8.

Accountability Index by School Level:

Looking at Content Areas Schoolwide

- ✍ Math Academic Index increased at the Middle School and High School.
- ✍ Science Academic Index increased in all schools.
- ✍ Arts and Humanities Academic Index increased at the Elementary School and the Middle School.
- ✍ Writing Academic Index increased only at the High School.
- ✍ Social Studies Academic Index increased at the Elementary School and the Middle School.
- ✍ Practical Living/Vocational Studies Academic Index increased only at the Elementary School.

Commission Staff

Bobbie Beth Scoggins, Ed.D. Executive Director

Renee Armstrong, Interpreter Relations Coordinator
Anita Dowd, Information Program Coordinator
Rowena Holloway, Program Coordinator
Kevin Kreutzer, Network Analyst I
Tony Lowe, Information Systems Supervisor
Virginia L. Moore, State Interpreter Administrator
Dana Parker, Executive Staff Advisor
Sharon White, Document Processing Specialist II
Julie Posey, Executive Secretary
Dianna Wright, Executive Staff Interpreter
Wilma Wright, Administrative Assistant

School Level Academic Index

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
Elementary School	37.2	37.5
Middle School	33.5	33.9
High School	32.8	40.8

Source: Kentucky Standard



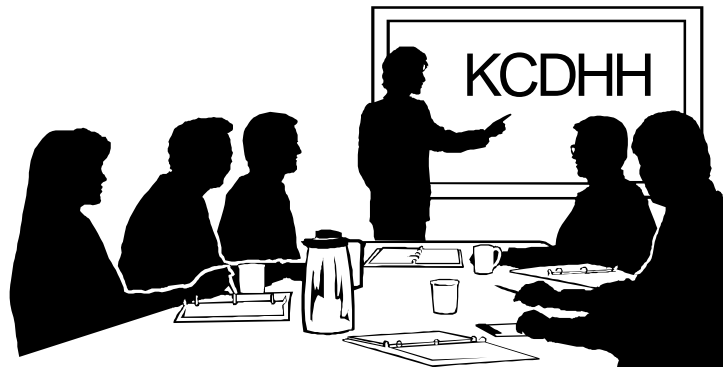
Foster Parents NEEDED for Deaf Children

Buckhorn of Louisville, a private foster care agency has many deaf children in their care. They are looking for loving homes with parents who can sign.

CAN YOU HELP? For more information please contact:

Jennifer Hammon
(502) 584- 5250 V

KY Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Board Vacancies



The current KCDHH Member-at-Large term will expire on June 30, 2003. Applicants may be deaf, hard of hearing or hearing. The Member-at-Large representative serves a three-year term, which will begin on July 1, 2003 and expire on June 30, 2006. KCDHH is looking for enthusiastic, creative individuals who will be involved in an exciting phase of change within state government. The TTY Distribution Program is seeking to fill the Deaf Consumer seat on its board. The deaf consumer representative will serve a two-year term beginning on July 1, 2003 and ending June 30, 2005. Interested persons are encouraged to contact the KCDHH for an application:

Bobbie Beth Scoggins
Executive Director
632 Versailles Road
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
502-573-2604 (V/T) 502-573-3594 (Fax)
800-372-2907 (V/T)

Applications must be submitted on or before April 1, 2003.

**Commission on the Deaf
and Hard of Hearing**
632 Versailles Road
Frankfort, KY 40601

Prsrt. Std.
U.S. Postage
Paid
Frankfort, KY
40601
Permit #584

An agency of the Kentucky Education, Arts and Humanities Cabinet

ARE YOU SAD OR DEPRESSED? ARE YOU ANGRY? NEED HELP????

The Department for Mental Health Services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing has three therapists who are fluent in sign language. These therapists are available to assist you. You may contact these therapists at the following locations:

Laura Burg
Bluegrass Comprehensive Care
201 Mechanic Street
Lexington, Kentucky 40507
(859) 259-0214 Voice/TTY

Karin Robertson
Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center
P.O. Box 568
Corbin, Kentucky 40702
(606) 528-7010 Ext. 265 Voice/TTY

Michelle Niehau
Seven Counties Services
2225 West Broadway
Louisville, Kentucky 40212
(502) 589-8723 Ext. 130 Voice/TTY

Also, there is a toll free TTY crisis line for deaf and hard of hearing individuals to call at ANYTIME for help or referrals:

877-244-0921 TTY